

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 is amended. Claims 4-16 are cancelled. No new matter is presented. The above amendments and the following remarks are considered by Applicants to overcome each rejection raised by the Examiner and to place the application in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

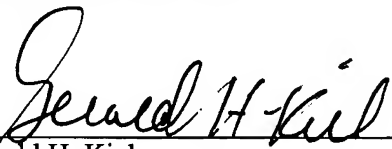
The Examiner has rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Claim 8 is cancelled. Therefore, the rejection of claim 8 is moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Hanada (U.S. Patent No. 5,400,170). Claim 15 is cancelled. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable features of claim 11. Claims 2 and 3 are dependent upon claim 1. Therefore, it is submitted that for at least the reasons mentioned above, claims 2 and 3 recite patentable subject matter.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanada in view of Bell (U.S. Patent No. 5,105,582). Claim 16 is also cancelled. Therefore, the rejection of claim 16 is moot.

For the reasons presented above, claims 1-3 all the claims pending in the application, are believed by Applicants to define patentable subject matter and should be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. A Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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